

THE C4 NEWSLETTER

Winter 2006

Volume 14, Number 4



Featured in this issue

- A Tribute to Mike Ringo
- Counterfeits, Fakes, and Copies
- Historical Tidbits
- Spanish Mints and Mintmarks
- Recap of the C4 2006 Annual Convention
- More on Counterfeit Shillings and 6d
- Notes on Machin's, Wood's, and Mass Silver
- An Early Coin Scale
- Ray Williams -- An Award

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The C4 Newsletter

A quarterly publication of

The Colonial Coin Collectors Club, Inc.

Web address: www.colonialcoins.org

Volume 14, Number 4

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Membership questions, address changes, and dues should be sent to Roger Moore at the address listed above. Dues are \$20-regular (including 1st class mailing of the Newsletter), \$10 for junior members (under 18).

NOTE FROM EDITOR: The coins pictured on the front cover are all pedigreed to Mike Ringo. These photos were sent to me in his memory by: Clem Schettino, Mike Packard, Roger Moore, George Lyman, Ray Williams, Gary Trudgen, and John Agre. The coin at the center (V6-76A) is the coin that first got Mike interested in colonial coins (per Gary Trudgen, who acquired it from Mike).

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Where do I begin? So much has transpired since the last C4 Newsletter! Our annual C4 Convention and Auction were a great success, as always. Thanks to all who made it happen! The C4 Table and auction lot viewing tables were always staffed with volunteers. The exhibits were awesome, the Educational Forum was fun and informative, and everyone enjoyed the refreshments. Dan Freidus called the auction and everything moved along smoothly. It was nice to see all my friends in Boston! There were a few that couldn't attend and hopefully they'll be there next time.

During the annual C4 Business Meeting, Ed Sarrafian was installed as a new Regional VP, replacing Dan Freidus. I've served as an officer for many years with Dan and enjoyed working with him. We all welcome Ed to his new position. For those unaware, C4 officers are all unpaid volunteers who work tirelessly for love of the hobby. Thank them when you see them.

There is an announcement elsewhere in this newsletter about dues. Dues costs are rising (and still the biggest bargain in the hobby) starting in 2008. The costs of the new newsletter format are greater than before, and several of our convention expenses have risen too. Also, the C4 Bylaws are being reviewed by Tim Martin and the rest of the Board. Recommended changes, additions & updates will be brought to the membership for consideration. Voting on bylaw changes will be done at the next C4 Convention.

It was a shock to the colonial community to learn that Mike Ringo passed away on Sunday, January 28th. Many, including myself, were not aware that he was having health issues. He will be sorely missed! After Mike's brother, Tim, broke the news to the colonial chat group, there was an outpouring of memories. Mike was universally respected as a numismatist, coin dealer and a man of integrity and honesty. The first coins I purchased from Mike (9/16/89) are still in my collection and my last purchase was May, 2006. Mike had a photographic memory for recognizing varieties and undertypes. He was patient in instructing and educating others. I will miss him as one of the true gentlemen in the hobby and in my life.

One of the most stressful jobs in C4 is newsletter editor. Much stress will be removed if there are plenty of articles submitted ahead of time. Please consider sharing an article of one paragraph to 20 pages. If you don't feel you have the ability, write it anyway and Syd will "clean it up."

The next event at which many colonial collectors will gather is the EAC Convention in April. There should be more information about it elsewhere in this issue. On Thursday night, we will be holding a "Colonial Happening," which is just a time of sharing coins and information. Consider bringing a coin or two with you. I am also looking forward to visiting Eric Newman's Museum – there are many great colonial rarities in Eric's collection. Hope to see many of you there.

Now go and get a coffee, sit back and enjoy the newsletter. Have FUN! Ray

COUNTERFEIT NEW ENGLAND COPPER COINS REVISITED

(Ken Bressett)

The recent C4 Newsletter of Fall 2006 (Volume 14, Number 3) contains an article entitled "Counterfeit New England Copper Shillings and Sixpence", by John N. Lupia III. In this the author comments on the known literature concerning several items reputed to be counterfeits, or simulations of seventeenth century New England coinage.

Included in this survey is information about the so-called Dutch stiver, as well as reference to other pieces that are not strictly N.E. shillings or sixpence coins of the Bay Colony. A lengthy quotation is given concerning the trial of Charles Pickering, a noted early counterfeiter believed by the author to have issued false Boston coinage.

On page 9, Lupia asserts that in the article by Eric P. Newman (*Comments on the Counterfeiting of 'Spanish Bitts and New England Shillings'*, the Colonial Newsletter, Vol. 17, October, No. 53 [1978] p.666) the author is incorrect in stating that "no such counterfeiting of New England coinage actually took place." A more careful reading of Mr. Newman's article shows that he correctly states only that no contemporary account of such counterfeiting exists. It is reasonable to believe that very old silver imitations of the Bay coinage do exist, but when, where or how they were made has never been documented.

The postulation that Charles Pickering struck counterfeit copper imitations of the N.E. shilling and sixpence coins is weakened by the fact that the early coinage of 1652 was nearly gone from circulation by 1683, and would have been difficult to pass as current coinage. Further, minting of the Bay coins had been halted in 1682 for political reasons and a skillful counterfeiter would have made New Bitts that were far more acceptable in trade.

Linking the Pickering operation to the Spanish overstamped copper coins "discovered" by E. Locke Mason, only serves to destroy the concept by relying on misinformation. The coins that are so well described by Mason are not unknown today. They are just now so well identified, and so mundane, that many of today's collectors of early American coins are not familiar with them because they are rarely mentioned in any connection with American coinage.

The coins that are described by Mason are normal Spanish re-valued copper 'maravedis' of Philip II and III. The overstriking was done in the mid-seventeenth century to double the face value of the Spanish coins and avert a shortage of small change. Worn coins were stamped with various dates and denominational marks. Some of the most common are dated 1652 and marked XII or VI, but numerous other dates and marks exist. Many of these strange copper coins contain so many overstrikes that they are commonly called the "tattooed coins of Spain" (see P. K. Anderson, "Spain-Numismatic Tattooing", *The Numismatist* August 1954).

A significant omission from the Lupia list of fake copper imitations of the N.E. coinage can be found in the 1871 auction sale of the collection of Charles Clay by George A. Leavitt & Co. Lot number 73 is described thus: "N.E. Penny. Oval in shape. Evidently an old French copper coin, with the date 1565 on the Rev. The monogram of New England, though a little blurred, is yet sufficiently clear. The mark "I", on the other side, is much clearer, and seems to have been twice impressed. The Fleur-de-Lis is quite plain. The monogram and numeral differ in size and character from those on the penny above described, and is also unique. Size 14x12." The reverse of this piece is photographically illustrated on plate 2 of the catalog, and while quite convincing, most certainly is a nineteenth century fake.

The previous lot that is mentioned (number 72), while not made of copper, is thus described: "N.E. Penny. Struck in soft white metal, but which has originally been coated over with copper (Vide on the rev.; left of the mark I for penny; also the date of 1577) proving that the N.E. marks were struck on a spurious old coin. The edge is slightly broken, otherwise the piece is in fine condition and perfectly Unique. Size 18."



Internet Gleanings

(Roger S. Siboni)

Copies, Electrotypes, and Other Facsimiles

As I have mentioned in the past, while I generally like to comb through the posts in the Yahoo Colonial Coin Group Message Board, I do find interesting Colonial related posts on several other Boards and websites. One of my favorites is the E-Sylum Electronic Newsletter that comes out every Sunday night and is edited by Wayne Homren. For any Bibliophile, this newsletter is a must. You can reach Wayne at: Fsylum@bighost.com to be added to his subscription list.

E-Sylum always has interesting content and the last quarter was no exception. One of the posts I found interesting was on electrotypes and copies (The E-Sylum: Volume 9, Number 42, October 15, 2006, Article 15).

In it Dick Johnson, a regular contributor, writes in response to a complaint about too many electrotypes coming into a coin shop:

"I can readily understand Tom DeLorey's comments last week in response to 'reproductions' in the numismatic field. He probably has to field inquiries from the public about copies of rare coins constantly working in his coin shop. This must get tiresome rather quickly. And this is probably typical of every coin shop in America. But it is a cost of dealing with the public. If you are a coin dealer open for business to the public you must expect to deal with copies the public may have.

"However, there are good copies and bad copies. In fact, I've identified twelve classes of copies and reproductions of coins (and medals). You might even be surprised that there are *some* copies that are worth more than the originals.

"But to dump all copies under one umbrella and disparage all is unfair and fallible. Tom is an experienced and knowledgeable numismatist. I admire his expertise and have complimented his writings in the field. He, perhaps like others, may be a little short-sided on the subject of numismatic copies however.

"The bad copies are, of course, (1) *counterfeits* and (2) *forgeries* are both illegal and made to deceive collectors and the public. These are the 'bane' of the field to use Tom's term. (3) *Restrikes* are a gray area, it depends on who has the dies and what is their intent, (4) *imitations* have no bad intent and are not illegal, like children's' play money. (5) *Facsimiles*, also called 'stage money' and 'costume jewelry copies,' are for use in the theater and film industries. (6) *Reproductions*, (7) *private copies*, (8) *collectors' copies*, and (9) *replicas* are made for collectors and are called 'study copies.' When these are made from new dies they are called 'struck copies.' When cast by electrolysis (see discussion below) they are called 'electrotypes.' All are completely legal and of interest to and for collectors.

"There is perhaps a 150-year heritage of these items [electrotypes]. The British Museum made electrotypes for other museums and collectors. Struck copies of American coins have been made by a who's who of American numismatists (Bolen, Dickeson, Idler, Robinson, Wyatt names come to mind). Dick Kenney compiled a pamphlet on these in 1952, published by Wayte Raymond. Struck copies are certainly collectible. (10) *Revisions* are a slight change from the original; collectors call these "type I" and "type II." (11) *Custom copies* are those made exactly like the original, by the same maker, often of decorations and medals. Examples include "replacement medals" (for ones lost) or 'jeweler's copy' for perhaps a second uniform. (12) *Deluxe copies* are made for recipients (if the recipient was awarded one in silver a deluxe copy could be made in gold at his own expense).

"Obviously the last class is worth more than originals. This also has occurred for the Paduan copies of ancient coins. They were of such excellent craftsmanship and rarity they often bring higher prices than their ancient coin originals.

"As I recently watched the remarkable diversity, quality and prices that some of the Ford copies brought in the XIVth Sale, I had a greater appreciation for copies and their intrinsic values as collectables. I guess like everything else, you take the good with the bad."

As the Ford Sale and Dick's comments peaked my curiosity about copies and electrotypes, I was pleased to see that the very next issue provided some additional helpful education regarding electrotypes themselves -- specifically, how they are made

and how they can deceive (The E-Sylum: Volume 9, Number 43, October 22, 2006, Article 14).

In this issue Bob Lyall writes:

"In the article about copies, reference is made to *When cast by electrolysis they are called 'electrotypes.'* Electrotypes are not casts, they were produced by coating a genuine coin in a thin film of oil, and passing a current from a bar of silver through a bath of a chemical (I am not sure what chemical, maybe silver nitrate) to transfuse the silver onto the original coin which was the other terminal in the bath; this coin was protected by the oil. There formed a silver skin on the genuine coin which was carefully cut away, making two halves of a coin, these being put together and filled so they made a near perfect copy of the original, the weight being one 'give away' usually.

"Sometimes the surface is 'oily;' often the edge is countermarked RR (incuse) for Robert Ready, the British Museum electrotypist in the mid 19th century who is regarded as the most skilled of such electrotypists. They can be exceedingly deceptive but the weight is often a give away, but not necessarily so. With hammered and ancient coins; sometimes traces of the edge join can be seen, but not always.

"One of the 'commonest' is the UK is electrotypes of the Charles I Oxford crown. Many years ago I was told that the British Museum stopped making them to order when they bought one of their own electros as a genuine coin! I don't know if this is a fact or just a nice story! But beware; they can be very deceptive indeed."

Those I would categorize as "good" can and are used by unscrupulous people to cheat collectors. If I could paraphrase Dick's arguments, it would be, "copies don't cheat people, people cheat people."

Bob Neale added to that issue of E-Sylum:

"I'd like to weigh in strongly opposed to Tom DeLorey's apparent wish to outlaw reproductions. In many cases, yes, they can be and are a problem, such as in *artificially aged* Gallery Mint pieces based on rare but collectible issues. But when deliberate attempts to defraud are made using modified reproductions, they are almost always found out. Buyers of stuff on eBay take lots of chances. Buyers in face-to-face transactions take less. As always, dealer and personal ethics and reputations become known over time and the bad ones can be identified and avoided (if not subjected to the penalties called for in some of the early counterfeiting legislation).

"When it comes to items that are just not available to collectors, no matter how deep their pockets, I believe that reproductions are a really great idea and where done well, such as at the Gallery Mint, put more than just a picture or drawing in the hands of we who wish [to have examples of] such things as the silver Novas *that* had once been made and circulated. Robert Morris tried to bring his system of a new coinage into effect and had a few patterns made, but Thomas Jefferson had a more rational plan for America's new

coinage that proved the basis of the Mint Act of 1792 [see my article, *Mr. Jefferson's Money* in the November 2005 Numismatist]. I think that anyone who has not seen the Gallery Mint 1796 type sets, for example, is missing something truly exceptional in terms of beauty, interest, and value."

Massachusetts Silver Varieties:

Even though it is arguably the grandfather of all colonial American coinage, we never seem to have enough discussion about Massachusetts Silver on the Message Board. Thus, it was very welcome when Clem Schettino raised the prospect of having discovered a second Noe 8.5 variety. Although it did not end up being so, Clem's persistent inquiry led us to a brief discussion regarding the evolution of Massachusetts Silver variety designations.

The first written description of Massachusetts Silver appeared in Thorsby's *Museum* in 1715 and then again in Stephen Martin Leake's *An Historical Account of English Money* in 1726 (where they each speculated that NE stood for Newark, England). However, as with almost all things colonial, variety attribution starts with Crosby. Crosby did a formidable job researching the history of, and categorizing the four different broad types of, Massachusetts Silver into denomination and variety types known to him in 1875. But his photographic examples were limited and depicted with gravure plates. Crosby stood the test of time until the interest in this first organically produced American coinage became so great that the well known Carl Wurtzbach assembled a composite set of photographic plates which depicted almost all varieties known to him – this included those described by Crosby as well as ones discovered since. Carl Wurtzbach was a fairly well healed collector who put together his collection and ultimately his photographic plates during the 1930s. In 1937, he published and distributed no more than 200 sets of his plates (numbered Plates are known to exist up to #90, which was inscribed to noted Large Cent collector Dr. H. W. Beckwith). Most of Wurtzbach's collection was purchased from Charles E. Clapp. At the time, he thought it to be one of the most comprehensive collections ever assembled (and to date it still is). Despite the popularity of Massachusetts Silver collecting and the limited number of plates produced, they still seem to regularly appear at auction or for sale privately for around \$500. Because of the extensiveness of the plates and its high-grade photographic images, the Wurtzbach Plates became the standard for Collectors of the time until 1942. Wurtzbach's collection was eventually sold to T.J. Clark who, in turn, sold the set with his additions to the New Netherlands Company. New Netherlands sold a large portion of this collection to F.C.C. Boyd and sold the rest privately or through auction. Most, if not all of the Boyd collection was purchased by John J. Ford and appeared in Part XII of the Ford Auction.

In 1942, approximately 500 examples of Massachusetts Silver were brought together at the American Numismatic Society for an Exhibition. The contributors to the exhibition were a "whose who" of the Colonial Numismatic Community of the time including T.J. Clarke and several Institutions. It was from this assemblage that ANS Chief Curator Sydney P. Noe, using disciplines he developed as a student and researcher of Greek Coinage, prepared the first revision to Massachusetts Silver variety designations since

1875. While Noe's contributions to this field of study were extensive, his major contributions were to expand and update known varieties, to sequence varieties in order of striking and to provide the most complete set of plates yet available to collectors. This was accomplished in his three monographs on Massachusetts Silver published by the American Numismatic Society.

It was not until the 1970s that this subject matter was meaningfully tackled again by Richard Picker. In several CNL articles, and ultimately in an article included in the American Numismatic Society's "Studies on Money in America" (issued to commemorate their Bicentennial Exhibition), he expanded on Noe's work. Picker was one of the leading dealers in Colonial American numismatics at the time and specialized in Massachusetts Silver. No doubt having some monetary motive partially in mind, Picker expanded on Noe's classification scheme by introducing collectible intermediate die states. His efforts met with mixed reaction, and to this day, even in seminal catalogs like Hain and Ford, only passing mention is made to intermediate die designations.

The consensus within the collecting community is that this series is due for a complete re-evaluation.

COLLECTING SPANISH COINAGE

There were several posts over the past few months regarding what to include in a type set of Spanish Coinage that circulated in the American Colonies. While this has been the subject of numerous books and articles and is deserving of far more than a "gleaning," your Associate Editor suggested that a minimum type set should include three Pillar Dollars (Phillip V 1732-46, Ferdinand VI 1747-60, Charles III 1760-72) and two bust dollars (Charles III 1772-89 and Carlous IV 1789-91) spanning the period of Spanish Monarchical pieces of eight that were the monetary standard for our Colonies (as well as most of the Western World) during the 18th Century.

Alan Anthony suggested that a very basic type set would include one cob, one pillar, and one portrait bust of any king, mint, or denomination. He suggested that a more inclusive set might include one of each denomination for each king; then, a full type set would include each mint, each denomination, and each king. Alan noted that this was not an easy task but viewable at the Colonial Williamsburg site. Ed Sarrafian, an avid collector of Spanish American coinage reminded us that he wrote an article for the C4 Newsletter on this subject. He further indicated that his definition of a type set would include a 1/4, 1/2, 1, 2, 4, 8 Reales and a Pistreen. He would also include Spanish Cobs and Milled Dollars. Ed indicated that he is still looking for a pre French and Indian war Pistole. Finally, for Virginia flavor, he would include a Portuguese 1/2 Joe.

As I struggled to get my mind around all the various Spanish mint marks, Jack Howes came to my aid with a chart (Figure 1) of known Spanish mint marks. Jack and I would welcome any editions or images anyone would like to contribute to this schedule.

CECAS Y MARCAS DE TALLER

ARAGON.....	ARAGON	
BARCELONA.....	•• R A B E H ••	
BURGOS.....	B	
ELIAAO.....	B	
CADIZ.....	C	
CATALUNA.....	C	
CHUATRIA.....	C	
CORUNA.....	C	
HUENCA.....	CA CA	
CHZCO.....	C	
DURANGO.....	D	
GERONA.....	GNA-	
GRANADA.....	G	
GUADALAJARA.....	G	
GUANAHUATO.....	G	
GUATEMALA.....	G NC	
HUBA.....	H	
LERIDA.....	L D. ILO	
LIMA.....	L	
MADRID.....	M M	
MANILA.....	M	
MEXICO.....	M M M	
NUEVO REINO.....	N R N R SF	
PALMA MALLORCA.....	M PALMORA. P.M.	
PAMPLONA.....	P	
POPAYAN.....	P	
POTOSI.....	P	
PUERTO RICO.....	Puerto Rico. *	
SANTANDER.....	S	
SANTIAGO (Chile).....	S	
SEGOVIA.....	S	
SEVILLA.....	S L. S *	
TOLEDO.....	T. T	
VALENCIA.....	V	
VALLADOLID.....	V D-VLL	
ZACATECAS.....	Z	
ZARAGOZA.....	Z C CA Z	

Figure 1. Known Mintmarks for Spanish and Spanish Colonial Mints

C4 General Membership Meeting Dec. 2, 2006 -- Boston

(F. Steimle, Recording Secretary)

Ray Williams opened the meeting at 8:35 AM. This was followed by a round of brief introductions among all in the room -- 26 signed the attendance sheet but others were present. Ray then talked about C4 having a presence at the EAC and ANA annual conventions, giving members additional times to gather and share the hobby.

The Secretary summarized the minutes from the last annual meeting. A motion that they be accepted was seconded and approved.

The Treasurer gave his report. Our annual income (\$9242) and expenses (\$9275) almost balance but our assets (Cash and CDs) continue to increase so that they are ~\$111K. Book sales have slowed down and we need to seek avenues to make the public aware that the books are available. Dan Freidus noted that the treasurer's report started in January of this year and does not cover 2 months at the end of 2005 and the last budget. Roger said that in the next C4 Newsletter he would include an amended budgetary spreadsheet that covered the entire year between annual meetings, and include 2005 auction income [this is currently being worked – Editor]. A motion was made to approve the treasurer's report; and it was approved by attendees.

Ray then presented the Board a motion to increase the annual dues to \$25 and life membership to \$500. Discussion followed on the value or liability of offering life memberships and the need to increase dues.

Syd Martin mentioned the high cost of publishing and distributing the Newsletter relative to dues income and that other costs may grow, such as unsold publication storage. He also noted that advertising in the Newsletter needs to be reevaluated and he would evaluate cost and revenues from such advertising to make sure the rates are adequate and make recommendations to the Board. This review would not affect the short free ads currently available to all members.

Tim Martin reminded us that to increase dues the C4 bylaws have to be changed because they presently state a fixed (current) amount. More discussion followed.

A motion was made that the bylaws be amended to delete specific reference to a dues or life membership dollar value and instead state that the Board may adjust the dues rate from time to time as needed, with the approval of the general membership. This motion was voted upon and approved.

Now that the Board and membership approved amending the bylaws to allow flexibility in setting dues and life membership cost, a motion was put forth to increase annual dues to \$25 in 2008. This motion was approved with 33 votes counted for it and 1 abstention.

A new motion was put forth to suspend life membership sales until the next Board and annual meeting (activated Dec 4, 2006) to allow discussion of the pros and cons of offering more life memberships to the financial future of C4. 27 votes were counted to approve the motion and 5 vote were counted were against.

A motion was put forth that the amended C4 bylaws be published in the next C4 Newsletter followed by the suggestion that they also be posted on the C4 website.

A counter motion was made that a group of C4 Board and other members should convene to re-examine the bylaws to make sure they are worded in a way to address both present and future contingencies that typically face organization such as C4, before we post any interim amended bylaws. This was approved.

Tim Martin and Roger Siboni seemed to take an interest in this review, and also suggested that all proposed amendments should be explained to the membership, as well as the rationale for them, well before the convention at which they would come to vote. There seemed to be general agreement that the current bylaws need to be reviewed and, if any additional amendments seem useful, they will be recommended to the Board and perhaps the general membership before the next annual meeting.

Elections -- there were no contested positions, but there was one change...Dan Freidus had decided to abstain from running for Regional VP again, and Ed Sarrafian ran for that position unopposed. A round of applause was given for Dan, Ed in his new Regional VP position, and the balance of the officers serving another term.

Jim Rosen of the C4 publication Committee reviewed the process for having C4 publish or support an author's manuscript. The author should present the manuscript to the C4 President, who will decide if it should go forward to the publication committee and our editors for processing and work and any issues that need to be addressed. He noted several publications are nearly ready for publication, including Syd Martin's work on Wood's Hibernias and Brian Danforth's work on pre-Confederation issues.

Ray mentioned that so far C4 convention attendance seemed to be down just slightly due to the lateness of the convention, but the scheduling is done by the Bay State Convention people. Although we are scheduled for the same time, Nov 29-Dec 2, next year, we will see if better arrangement might be possible in 2008. Discussion followed on the pros and cons of moving our annual meeting to another show, but the size of this show and the support of its organizer seem to work very well for our purposes. Jim Skalbe will discuss the timing with Ed Aleo to see what options we have in 2008 and beyond to address club member concerns, many of which travel quite a ways to attend.

Ray mentioned that for the information of the membership, the C4 newsletter editor and bourse chairpersons are invited guests at C4 Board meetings because of the importance of our publications and relationships to dealers in club management. Others may be invited to Board meetings as required for advice on certain issues.

Ray noted his desire to get our Friday night educational forums on edited DVDs so they can be available to members who cannot attend, or to refresh the memory of those who did. He will investigate how we might do this and what it might entail.

Jim Rosen brought up the issue of getting more young people (pre-adults) interested in colonial money and related histories and technologies and if there is anything we can do to encourage this. Charlie Smith supported this idea and asked the Board to investigate. Syd Martin suggested a committee approach that would make recommendations to the Board. Someone with an educational background noted that this effort would have to be made at a local level, e.g., between an interested teacher and students. Ray said he will ask ANA for suggestions on how to focus any committee on this issue.

Neil Rothschild discussed the donated book in the auction – focusing on Robert Martin’s outstanding collection of Connecticut Coppers. Only 7 copies were made in any format, the donated lot (#7) is the only one available to other collectors or libraries unless more are authorized. He discussed other colonial coinage photographic projects in which he is involved, such as the ANS collection.

Ray noted some scheduling and meeting location changes from what was posted in the Convention Program. A motion was made to close the meeting, and it was so approved at 10AM.

As always, the convention was a huge success – from educational, social, and collecting viewpoints. The Thursday social was well-attended (which may be explained by the great food!) and many members were willing to just hang out and “talk numismatics.”

C4 member dealers were amply represented on the Bourse floor Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Fortunately, business seemed to be brisk; this is good news, as these dealers are instrumental to our hobby and are tremendous sources of information as well as coins.

The educational forums on Friday night were exceptional, with interesting topics coverings a range of subjects (as the following pictures will attest).

The auction on Saturday night was spirited – there were some surprises in both directions. Some prices were much higher than anticipated, yet many seemed to be bargains, given the results of recent public auctions. [See following pages for hammer prices realized at the auction.]



C4 Reception Thursday night - a time of food and fellowship



One of several presentations at the C4 Educational Forum on Friday night



Oliver Hoover at the Educational Forum, proving that you don't need to live in NJ (or in the USA for that matter) to be enamoured with NJ Coppers



Anxiously awaiting the start of the auction – Saturday night



2006 C-4 Sale Boston 2 Dec 2006
Total Bids (291760.00)

Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid
1	325	61	65	121	1200	181	80	241	325	301	1300	361	120
2	170	62	110	122	550	182	60	242	170	302	325	362	275
3	400	63	100	123	850	183	1700	243	50	303	180	363	50
4	150	64	50	124	140	184	200	244	800	304	200	364	120
5	150	65	110	125	110	185	1275	245	120	305	130	365	70
6	210	66	75	126	65	186	275	246	0	306	140	366	450
7	300	67	60	127	375	187	140	247	900	307	40	367	350
8	2600	68	70	128	800	188	160	248	235	308	2100	368	800
9	1300	69	170	129	70	189	70	249	90	309	4000	369	4000
10	1900	70	90	130	1200	190	1700	250	550	310	600	370	325
11	430	71	400	131	350	191	110	251	120	311	400	371	50
12	610	72	90	132	300	192	210	252	250	312	110	372	75
13	650	73	70	133	350	193	220	253	425	313	500	373	950
14	1600	74	550	134	125	194	75	254	130	314	170	374	180
15	900	75	100	135	210	195	80	255	300	315	350	375	40
16	550	76	275	136	160	196	50	256	275	316	80	376	500
17	2100	77	75	137	700	197	400	257	140	317	50	377	85
18	850	78	150	138	1600	198	80	258	70	318	230	378	130
19	750	79	2350	139	400	199	0	259	300	319	600	379	550
20	700	80	425	140	530	200	1100	260	55	320	325	380	325
21	700	81	65	141	180	201	70	261	0	321	70	381	75
22	900	82	130	142	50	202	50	262	1000	322	210	382	110
23	800	83	55	143	475	203	170	263	200	323	425	383	260
24	1200	84	40	144	300	204	1000	264	110	324	2600	384	140
25	300	85	140	145	90	205	3250	265	110	325	50	385	60
26	350	86	125	146	105	206	2200	266	950	326	80	386	800
27	375	87	800	147	150	207	70	267	130	327	100	387	1200
28	85	88	175	148	50	208	325	268	325	328	275	388	100
29	1100	89	120	149	220	209	150	269	210	329	2400	389	75
30	225	90	95	150	275	210	70	270	0	310	375	390	120
31	6000	91	700	151	210	211	130	271	100	311	275	391	210
32	1600	92	125	152	40	212	210	272	210	312	800	392	750
33	800	93	350	153	40	213	65	273	125	313	180	393	110
34	0	94	65	154	2100	214	100	274	250	314	160	394	950
35	275	95	60	155	35	215	230	275	75	315	140	395	600
36	375	96	800	156	30	216	95	276	100	316	900	396	425
37	130	97	75	157	300	217	290	277	90	317	2750	397	275
38	275	98	80	158	850	218	200	278	110	318	500	398	750
39	1800	99	2000	159	50	219	65	279	50	319	1100	399	1600
40	900	100	275	160	425	220	70	280	2200	340	60	400	60
41	1100	101	300	161	200	221	65	281	65	341	160	401	500
42	1500	102	150	162	210	222	40	282	130	342	325	402	275
43	850	103	1600	163	600	223	110	283	70	343	400	403	180
44	1000	104	150	164	55	224	130	284	2300	344	250	404	125
45	1100	105	140	165	13000	225	2400	285	850	345	65	405	950
46	300	106	100	166	75	226	250	286	550	346	220	406	700
47	750	107	725	167	170	227	210	287	60	347	120	407	400
48	850	108	230	168	150	228	65	288	3250	348	240	408	130
49	850	109	300	169	50	229	550	289	150	349	1400	409	250
50	110	110	300	170	60	230	375	290	210	350	750	410	425
51	3000	111	95	171	80	231	90	291	350	351	100	411	150
52	75	112	850	172	800	232	100	292	350	352	450	412	225
53	100	113	180	173	150	233	1000	293	80	353	55	413	650
54	1900	114	0	174	80	234	350	294	80	354	275	414	350
55	250	115	1800	175	500	235	0	295	250	355	850	415	700
56	400	116	400	176	425	236	55	296	700	356	160	416	450
57	130	117	150	177	950	237	700	297	40	357	425	417	230
58	700	118	55	178	325	238	375	298	50	358	60	418	130
59	150	119	40	179	75	239	275	299	3250	359	350	419	325
60	50	120	110	180	130	240	700	300	95	360	950	420	170

2006 C-4 Sale Boston 2 Dec 2006

Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid
421	300	484	60	547	80	610	350
422	120	485	1600	548	425	611	210
423	90	486	400	549	170	612	150
424	120	487	65	550	110	613	200
425	100	488	850	551	90	614	320
426	0	489	500	552	55	615	85
427	325	490	200	553	0	616	80
428	110	491	190	554	150	617	90
429	475	492	300	555	0	618	220
430	450	493	400	556	0	619	80
431	25	494	60	557	425	620	225
432	1000	495	15	558	240	621	110
433	220	496	0	559	450	622	800
434	220	497	0	560	110	623	575
435	85	498	85	561	50	624	480
436	0	499	2600	562	20	625	30
437	350	500	0	563	650	626	180
438	2000	501	850	564	25	627	180
439	230	502	275	565	850	628	140
440	850	503	0	566	525	629	375
441	30	504	210	567	525	630	70
442	65	505	1	568	65	631	1300
443	60	506	200	569	110	632	70
444	100	507	0	570	130	633	375
445	600	508	400	571	0	634	350
446	175	509	0	572	0	635	150
447	140	510	150	573	500	636	350
448	200	511	280	574	350	637	0
449	35	512	170	575	425	638	1300
450	125	513	425	576	210	639	0
451	40	514	130	577	180	640	850
452	180	515	800	578	425	641	350
453	73	516	0	579	140	642	700
454	350	517	0	580	475	643	400
455	75	518	140	581	250	644	800
456	550	519	150	582	200	645	700
457	240	520	55	583	230	646	60
458	130	521	100	584	65	647	215
459	1500	522	70	585	500	648	200
460	600	523	325	586	240	649	390
461	70	524	0	587	35	650	55
462	900	525	0	588	160	651	160
463	210	526	170	589	0	652	250
464	90	527	575	590	140	653	200
465	60	528	140	591	210	654	60
466	40	529	130	592	0	655	60
467	55	530	0	593	750	656	30
468	70	531	425	594	1100	657	35
469	750	532	130	595	275	658	90
470	225	533	95	596	2400	659	115
471	0	534	850	597	1150	660	15
472	2100	535	0	598	0	661	15
473	95	536	0	599	375	662	60
474	210	537	600	600	1350	663	30
475	50	538	0	601	190	664	110
476	1700	539	700	602	200	665	120
477	25	540	85	603	800	666	110
478	425	541	55	604	210	667	375
479	650	542	115	605	475	668	65
480	65	543	350	606	425	669	160
481	30	544	180	607	700	670	300
482	475	545	90	608	550		
	65	546	130	609	120		



HISTORICAL NOTE -- EARLY COPPER CURRENCY IN AMERICA

"When the American Copper Coin is to be struck, it will be necessary, that the genuine British halfpence, or coppers, should pass current here, at 112 ½ to the dollar, or 15 to the shilling: which is only 4 1/6 percent more than the rate at which they circulate in Britain. The circulation of Birmingham and other counterfeit base coin, should be totally suppressed, whereby an end would be put to the iniquitous trade of importing into this country (or manufacturing here) such base coin, and purchasing gold and silver with it, of nearly four times its intrinsic value (comparing their nominal sums) for exportation; a trade which is carried to a most alarming height, and attended with very dangerous consequences. Columbian Magazine, April 1788, p200"

This paragraph was found by a C4 member while reading Volume VII page 23 of the American Journal of Numismatics (AJN), published by the Boston Numismatic Society in 1872. If we were carried back in time to the 1700s for just one day of commerce, we would return to our society with a new appreciation for the ease of how we conduct business today.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Vlack 3-74A Machin's Mill Coins. Some time ago, I started to write a short article for the C4 journal, dealing with Machin's Mills V.3-74A; however, right now its on the back, back burner. At any rate it all started when I plucked a very low grade 3-74A from a group lot I bought from a well-known eBay dealer. The incredible thing about the coin was the weight, which was 140+ grains. I checked the weight against those in Jack Howes' and Gary Trudgen's data bases for the variety. The weights they recorded were much lighter, in the 110 grain range, so I started thinking that this coin, and perhaps some other 3-74A's, was struck from the same planchet stock as V.7-74A's -- after all they share the same reverse. They (7-74A's) almost always come on heavy planchets if I recall, and I don't recall any really heavy 8-74A's, the other variety sharing the 74 reverse. I'm moving and most of my references are packed, but I found 20+ examples of 3-74A's, with only one other heavy one, from an early Rosa Americana catalog. Today, I received a PCI slabbed 3-74A which I broke out -- my first attempt at freeing the oppressed. I weighed the coin and it was an amazing 149.7 grains! I think this is the heaviest Machin I own. Any thoughts? Regards, Marc Mayhugh

Ed Saraffian has already commented on this letter: "Hi Marc. You may have something there with the 3-74A and 7-74A coming from the same planchet stock. Most of the 3-74A's and 7-74A's that I have seen have been on not so choice planchets whereas the 8-74A is usually found on nice planchets."

Cut-down Pine Tree Shillings. I recently acquired a Noe 10 [Pine Tree shilling] cut down to 45 grains (very nicely done, leaving the inner circle of beads, tree, date and XII). It occurred to me that this coin would certainly not pass as a Pine Tree Shilling, as it couldn't possibly be viewed as a shilling by anyone other than someone who never saw a "Boston" shilling before. As such, what is going on here?

My theory (original if not novel) is that this coin was meant to pass as a reale, which would have a full weight of about 51.7 grains. In Louis Jordan's book on the Silver Coinage of Massachusetts he has a weight analysis of the reale, and mentions that the full weight standard was not adhered to that much, and various "discounts" from the 51.7 grains are to be expected. In any event, I have encountered many cut down shillings, weighting in the 45 to 52 grain range.

I feel that clipped coins in the 60 to 70 grain range (barring moderate to heavy wear) were likely made to deceive, and gain the clipper some "free silver." Once these coins could no longer pass as a fraud, I think that they were cut down to a standard level, and that would be a reale. Also, if the "Boston" shillings reached the Southern states, which didn't have a monetary place for a shilling valued at 22.5 % of the English shilling, they would certainly be candidates for clipping into a coin that weighted into their standard system.

This idea is new with me, and further research is just starting. I welcome comment, and reports from members of what weights their cut down Mass Silver have. Eric M. Hildebrant, Watertown, MA

Wood's Hibernia Ground Find. Don Hartman just (January 2007) reported a metal detector find of a badly corroded Wood's Hibernia halfpenny:



Don asked the following question of your editor: "I found it unusual that the first and

only Wood Hibernia that I have found (yesterday) while metal detecting was in such sad condition. I have found many other coppers and Large Cents in the same area and none were this horrible for corrosion. I almost detected rust, and the coin seems blackish when cleaned in Hydrogen Peroxide, which is how I clean my ground found coppers. The weight of this one is 103.9 grains, and it appears to be dated 1724. So, is there tin or zinc added to the copper, or a lower grade copper, or did I just happen to find one that rotted easier than most colonial coppers that are in the ground?"

My reply (citing Sir Isaac Newton at the Trial of Pix) was: with the exception of some off-metal strikes, Wood's Hibernia coins were virtually pure copper.

Don responded: "Thanks for the prompt reply. One thing that suggests it is mostly copper is where the coin registered initially on my metal detector. My detector is capable of really showing Ferrous and Non-Ferrous type readings and the indication of both tone and visual ID indicated to me a good copper coin.

"I would not have been surprised to see this coin be in such sad shape if I found it in a low spot, but it was basically lost on a flat area overlooking a tidal river, but who knows, maybe a deer used that area as a litter box, and I am serious when I say something like that, because it is possible. This would expose it to the acids in the urine. I would probably be laughed off the metal detecting forums if I ever suggested such a thing, but heck, something in the soil caused that deterioration and if not the normal pH of the soil, then an outside source such as urine is a possibility. After all, most colonial coppers found in farm fields that have been fertilized for a couple hundred years are usually in even worse shape than this one. Fertilizer has destroyed more colonial coppers than anything else... :)

"Oh, in case you want the data, the coin was found in Atlantic County, NJ. The site was near very early settlements in NJ and the river is navigable to the ocean. Around 1800, after saw mills in the general locality at much earlier times, there was a major iron furnace nearby, and the workers there were responsible for quite a few of my finds. Many colonials have come from this general area, found by my and my son over the past 12 years or so at this site." [See C4 Newsletter Vol. 14 #2]
Don Hartman



Coin Scales

(Leo Shane)

During the 18th Century and before the Federal Mint was established (1792), American merchants used precious metal coins (gold and silver) from many countries. These coins had "real worth" or value in the amount of precious metal they contained. It was not uncommon during this time to encounter precious metal coins that were "clipped" or

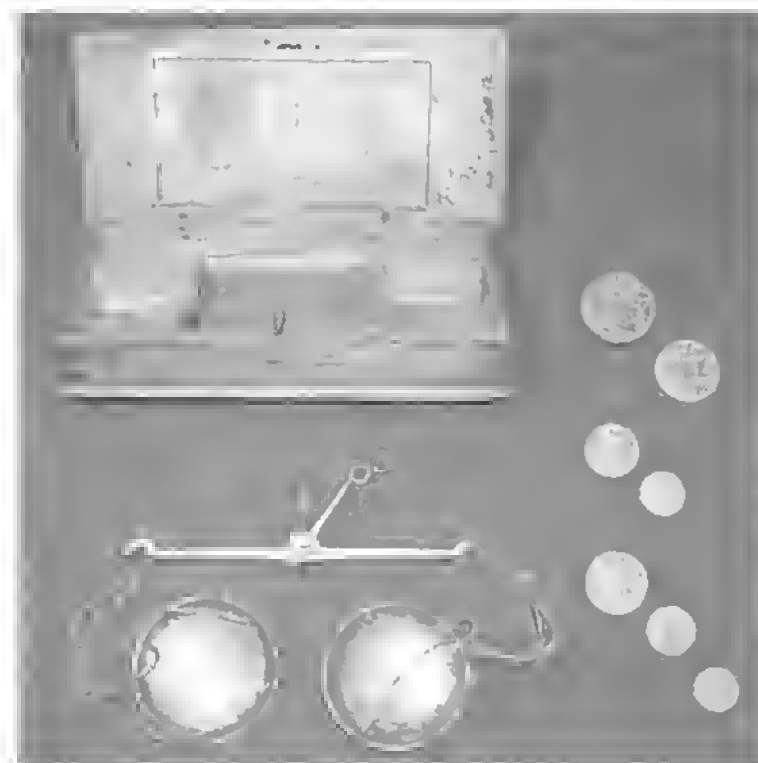
“filed” by unscrupulous individuals attempting to get enough metal to “cast” a new one. With this practice, the original coin could be debased by 10% or even 20%.

To guard against being victimized by “light” coins, merchants in America and Europe carried “Pocket” Coin Scales like the one in this exhibit. They were usually housed in a wooden or tin box and were a small size that could conveniently fit in one’s pocket. Included with the scale were weights corresponding to the most encountered precious metal coins. The scales were handheld and simple to use. With the appropriate weight in one pan and the coin in the other, the merchant quickly knew if the coin was of the proper weight.

It was also not uncommon to paste a copy of a coin chart on the inside lid of the scale box. This chart could be cut out of a Newspaper or Almanak and gave a ready reference to the merchant. In addition to the value of coins in London and various Colonies/States, the chart would list the weight or “least weight” that was acceptable.

The scale shown below was used in the later part of the 18th century and has a chart of coin values pasted to the inside box lid. The reference at the bottom of the chart reads “At a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, the 7th of August 1770, it was Resolved...” This is a reference to the New York Chamber of Commerce. With the scale are weights:

3£ 12S – Portuguese Johannes	27 Shillings – Portuguese Moidore
36S – Portuguese Half Johannes	13S 6d – Portuguese Half Moidore
20S 6d – English Guinea	6S 9d – Portuguese Quarter Moidore
Half a Guinea – English Half Guinea	



A Tribute to Mike Ringo

"Mr. Ringo died Sunday, the 28th of January, of kidney and liver failure at Fletcher Allen Health Care, Burlington, VT. He was a self-employed coin and collectibles dealer and a professional numismatist, dealing in Colonial coins, tokens, half cents and large cents. Before starting his own business, he worked for a coin shop in Latham. Most recently he was an eBay trader online. Born May 28, 1954, in Glen Ridge, NJ, son of Bryan Conway and Joyce Eleanor Kruger Ringo, he graduated in 1972 from Canton High School, where he was a member of the wrestling team, orchestra and chorus. He received a bachelor's degree in 1976 from SUNY Albany. Mr. Ringo was a



well-known and respected member of the American Numismatic Society and the Colonial Coin Collectors Club. He enjoyed traveling around the United States and Europe buying and selling coins.

"Surviving besides his parents, of Canton, are three brothers and a sister-in-law, Peter F. Ringo, Sheboygan, WI; Christopher D. and Jennifer Ringo, Mount Vernon, WA; and Timothy D. Ringo, Mebane, NC; as well as two nieces."

The above, rather "dry" obituary was published in Mike's local newspaper. Though it provides the facts of his life, a more appropriate remembrance of his life has been provided by his many friends. The thoughts are perhaps best summarized by Tom Rinaldo, in his message to Mike's brother, Tim:

"... Mike was a quiet Giant in our field. There is no one I have known, in any field that I know of, who pursued his livelihood with greater integrity than your brother Mike. And he was always unassuming about his knowledge, although everyone in this field realized that no one knew more about the coins Mike loved and studied than he did. Mike had strong feelings about some things, but he always carried them softly. In that way Mike was both a strong and gentle soul. Ours is an interesting hobby, because those drawn to it mostly are attracted by the history it embodies, but sometimes large sums of money change hands inside this hobby also, because great rarities are always highly desirable. There are areas of the larger coin hobby, outside of our Colonial specialty, where the dividing line between those who deal in this material and those who collect it are hard and fast. In those parts of the hobby it is often common that dealers will stick up for other dealers, and collectors just have to fend for themselves. That was never the case

with your brother. I, too, make my living dealing in the type of coins that Mike did. I began doing so in late 1989, and Mike was an early role model for me when I entered this profession. Without grandstanding, Mike always stood for truth. His loyalty was always to whatever was fair and right. If his opinion was sought about any coin, if there were any doubts about whether or not it was genuine, Mike would give his honest opinion, no matter who it helped or who it hurt. There simply wasn't any alternative for Mike, his integrity could never be bought by anyone. His loyalty was to the hobby as a whole, and he knew that all who shared in the joys of it would in the long run always be best served by honesty at all times. That is the Mike Ringo who I knew and honored, and honor still today. To the best of my ability I followed Mike's lead as I entered further into the business side of our hobby, and that lead has always served me well, because the dealers who were directly influenced by your brother, like your brother, never set ourselves apart from our friends and customers who collect the coins that we sell. And that opened up a path that allows me to enjoy and share in the camaraderie of a great group of people. Mike helped trail blaze that path for me and I will always owe him a debt of gratitude for that. When I was the new kid on the block Mike always treated me with respect, and I have always held Mike Ringo in the highest respect in return. Over the many years that I knew Mike we got to spend a lot of time together, and I like everyone else I am sure, have my own memories of Mike as a really great guy, and a pleasure to be around. I'm sure that you have more of those memories than I do, so instead I wanted to take a moment on this very sad day to share with you a bit more about this part of Mike's life that you probably never got to see up close, but I did. There are a lot of greedy people in the coin business, along with a number of generous and fair ones. Your brother was rock solid in the latter group. He was an honor to the hobby that he supported, and which supported him in turn. He made some bucks in it but it was never just about making bucks to Mike. He was far too genuine a person to ever be that shallow. As long as people collect the coins your brother handled he will always be remembered, and unlike some who went before him in the cheekered history of professional numismatists, Mike will always be remembered kindly, and his name will be spoken with honor by those who will enter this hobby in the decades to come, because we who knew your brother will see to it that that is the way he will always be remembered. I am so sorry for your loss, Tim, and for the loss felt by everyone in your family. Please know that your brother left a very deep and lasting impression on the many hundreds of people who came to know him through Colonial Coins, and we will miss him also. With deep sorrow from one of Mike's many friends. Tom"

The outpouring of grief and shock was widespread, with memories of Mike taking forefront. A selection of quotes taken from Colonial-Coins message traffic illustrate how Mike was perceived and how he will be remembered:

Clem Schettino: "He was one of the best."

Craig McDonald: "Mike is truly one of the good guys. . . the world of numismatistics as a whole has lost a great member."

Dennis Wierzba: "Mike was a giant in the hobby. . . I valued his friendship."

Dave Wnuck: "He shared his knowledge freely." See, for a more extensive tribute:

www.coinraritiesonline.com/index.php?page=mkt

Dave Menchell: "Mike was a genius."

Ed Sarrafian: "He truly is one of the good guys in coins."

Dan Friedus: Mike in his last hours "lit up" on hearing of the outpouring of support from our numismatic community.

Frank Steimle: "He will be remembered for a long time."

Frank McGrath: "Good-by, Mike! An old and cherished roommate."

Jack Howes: "I looked forward to every time I was going to be someplace he was expected."

Jeff Hall: "He was a good sport and he had a numismatic acumen that was second to none."

John Lorenzo: " -- When I think of Mike, I think of someone who was always 5-10 years ahead of the rest of us in terms of what to collect."

John Louis: "Patient and willing to share his information."

Marc Mayhugh: "Keep on trucking, buddy!"

Morris Hankins: ". . . encourage you to learn, appreciate, and share your knowledge also."

Mike Packard: "Your brother had an amazing memory."

Neil Rothschild: "He is one of the great guys in the hobby."

Dave Palmer: "Mike was a bright light in numismatics."

Randy Clark: "He was treasured in the hobby."

Ray Williams: "Mike was honest and freely shared information."

Roger Moore: "Mike was the dealer whose opinions and honesty I always trusted."

Roger Siboni: "He was equally decent in his approach to non-coin matters as he was when it came to coins."

Jeff Rock: "He is unique."

Syd Martin: "He is one of the most respected 'Old Guard' whose word was as good as gold."

Tom Rinaldo: "Mike was a true Guru in the field."

Alan Anthony: "My coins [from Mike] will now take on even greater meaning."

William Smith: "A toast to a classic preeminent expert in our field and of our day."

William Triest: "I wish I had known him much better."

These brief comments have been extracted from much longer tributes (which will be collected and provided to his family) – but they do give a feeling for how Mike was regarded.

Mike. . . we will miss you.





C4 PRESIDENT RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

Ray Williams, C4 President, recently received one of the highest awards given by the American Numismatic Association, the Presidential Award. Quoting from the press release [Compliments of ANA and Coin World]:

Ray Williams, a New Jersey collector who has served as an officer in several hobby associations, has received the American Numismatic Association Presidential Award.

The presentation was made by ANA Governor Michael S. Fey on Nov. 20 at the 822nd meeting of the New Jersey Numismatic Society, of which Williams is vice president.

"He has been volunteering to bring his own video equipment to every NJNS meeting for years, as well as meetings at other monthly New Jersey ANA club meetings, just so that everyone can share their numismatic stories and treasures on the big screen with fellow club members," Fey remarked.

Williams is also president of the Colonial Coin Collectors Club, second vice president of the Garden State Numismatic Association and vice president of the New Jersey Numismatic Society.

He is a past president of the New Jersey Numismatic Society and a past president of the Trenton Numismatic Club. He belongs to more than a half-dozen ANA member clubs.

He has received the Nettleship Award from NJNS, the Henry Grunthal Award from the New York Numismatic Club and the ANA Regional Coordinator's Citation. He was recently elected as an American Numismatic Society Fellow.

Williams is a recognized expert on New Jersey Coppers.

He has exhibited numerous times at local and state conventions; has written numerous articles for *Penny-Wise*, the bi-monthly journal of Early American Coppers; and has assisted with several books about Colonial coinage.

By age 11, he obtained his Boy Scout Coin Collection Merit Badge.

For more information about ANA Presidential Awards, visit the ANA's Web site www.money.org or call ANA headquarters at (800) 367-9723.

CONGRATULATIONS, RAY! We are extremely proud of you, and deeply appreciative for all you do on behalf of C4.



Ray receives the Presidential Award from ANA – Presented by Michael Fey (ANA Governor) at a meeting of the New Jersey Numismatic Society.

Rays comment: "This was in the Dec 25th issue of Coin World - what a Christmas gift! I think the article makes me look a little more important than I really am."



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual EAC Convention. The Early American Coppers (EAC) Club convention, EAC 2007, will be held April 26 -29 in St. Louis, Missouri. The location will be the St. Louis Airport Hilton (Tel: 314 426 5500 or 800-HILTONS). The room rate will be \$79 (parking rates are not known at this time). The hotel is ready to accept reservations - mention Early American Coppers.

A bourse reservation form will be in the next issue of *Penny Wise* as well as a note about time and location and room reservations. In addition the National League baseball champs will be in town for games on both the Wednesday before and Sunday after our

convention. If you think that an outing to a game would be a desirable convention activity please email me (Jon Lusk) and indicate which day might work for you (or both). We will only do this activity if there is sufficient interest, so you've got to let us know.

Contacts for 2007 convention:

Jon Lusk: Jon@Lusk.cc

R. Tettenhorst: HalfCent@AOL.com

Don Valenziano: DONVTWO@aol.com (Bourse)

Note from Ray Williams: There will be a strong presence of colonial collectors and dealers at this convention. There will be a colonial happening on the Thursday night of the convention, so please consider bringing something (not mandatory) for "show-n-tell." It could be your favorite coin, an unusual coin or a coin on which you'd like the opinion of others. Also, there will be a trip to Eric Newman's new Money Museum which is located nearby. This is something not to be missed!

Call for Exhibits. CONSIDER EXHIBITING AT C4! We need exhibitors. Anyone interested in learning more about exhibiting at the C4 convention in Boston is invited to contact me. I'll send you an information sheet and answer any questions you might have. Exhibiting is a fun way to share and enjoy the hobby. The C4 convention exhibits are non-competitive (no judging or awards), and contribute significantly to the enjoyment of attending the annual convention for everyone. Exhibiting is not only for those with high grade or exceptionally rare coins. Everyone has coins and related material that others would enjoy seeing. In addition to individual exhibits, we are looking for people to participate with others in group exhibits. If you'd like to discuss exhibiting, please contact me via buell@vectrafitness.com or [REDACTED]
Thanks, Buell Isb, C4 Exhibit Chairman

NEW DUES INFORMATION.....

Starting in 2008, C4 dues will be increased to \$25!

2007 Dues are still \$20

We have suspended accepting Life Membership Applications until the C4 Board has sought financial advice with respect to restructuring the costs vs. expenses.

2007 Dues are due NOW. If you have an "06" on your mailing label, please make our Treasurer's job easier by sending your \$20 check to him ASAP! See the included flyer for details.



**BOOK REVIEW: ISLAND AT THE CENTER OF THE WORLD
BY RUSSELL SHORTO**

Roger S. Siboni writes: There is a recently published book entitled "The Island at the Center of The World - The Untold Story of Dutch Manhattan and the Founding of New York" by Russell Shorto which has been making its way through the Colonial Numismatic circuit. In my view, the book is outstanding and a fairly quick read. It is the true story of the settling of New York by the Dutch, based upon some recently discovered records in The New York State Library at Albany that were written in Old Dutch. How they were found and translated is a story in itself, but it does cover Henry Hudson's intrepid voyages in search of the Northwest Passage to the far East.

Henry Hudson made several voyages in search of a more expeditious passage to the Far East from Europe. Some were made on behalf of the Dutch East India Company (VOC) and some were privately financed. Virtually all the expeditions were directed at the discovery of a NorthEAST Passage as the shortcut to the Far East, but Hudson was convinced the secret lie in a NorthWEST passage.

He was so convinced that he simply disobeyed the wishes of his sponsors and crews in search of this Northwest passage. His unswerving determination to find the Northwest passage ended when his mutinous crew lowered him, his son and his few followers onto a small boat in the southern reaches of what is now Hudson Bay, where they froze to death.

Ironically, the mutineers managed to limp back to England where they were exonerated for mutiny and murder. Amazingly, they claimed that Hudson had indeed found the Northwest passage and that they knew where it was. Rather than being hanged, they received funding from King James and several prominent London businessmen to start the "The Company of the Merchant's Discoveries of the North-West Passage." From there, the race was on.



C4 LIBRARY NEWS

(Leo Shane)

NOTE: Suggestions for additions to the library are always appreciated. Please consider donating books, auction catalogs, etc. to the library. Remember, those who are learning about colonials now are those who will be buying your coins later. My email is:

Leo_J_Shane@hotmail.com or write to me at [REDACTED]

Wanted: Softbound Copies of Ford 2, 3 and 4

Stacks in NY has been a very good supporter of the club. They have donated many soft copies of important auction catalogs as well as a complete set of hardbound copies of all of the Ford sales. The library however, does not have a complete set of softbound Ford sale catalogs. We are missing Ford 2, 3 and 4. Please consider donating or selling a copy of these important auction catalogs to the C4 library. Please contact me if you can donate or sell any of these catalogs, Thanks.

Thank You to all for your donations to the C4 Library. Your contributions are appreciated by all C4 members. Below are new items donated (and otherwise) to the Club that are now available for loan to all C4 members. A complete list of library holdings and instructions on how to borrow them is available at the C4 website www.colonialcoins.org.

Newly Acquired Books, Manuscripts & Auction Catalogs:

Roger Siboni's Beach Coin Symposium, Transcription of Tapes, Plates and Photographs of the meeting, 26 August 2006 in Mantoloking, NJ. (Donated by Roger Moore)

Convention Booklet for the 12th Annual C4 Convention, 1-3 December 2006, Boston, including schedule of events, bourse floor plan, president's message and exhibit list. (Donated by Ray Williams)

New England Historic Genealogical Society, John Hull's Colony Journal, (Hard copy print of the 35MM microfilm produced by the NEHGS, (893 pages)

I would also like to thank the American Numismatic Society for their on-going donations of the Colonial Newsletter and the Early American Coppers Club for donations of Penny Wise Newsletter.

Classified Ads

Ads for this newsletter can be purchased as follows:

	1 issue	2 issues	3 issues	4 issues	Copy Size
1 page	\$50	\$80	\$105	\$130	4 1/2"x7 1/2"
1/2 page	\$30	\$55	\$75	\$95	4 1/2"x3 3/4"

Covers cost somewhat more (please inquire). If you want to include a photo with your ad there will be an additional \$10 charge. A black and white photo will be needed, but the size can be adjusted. Please send check with your ad. We accept camera-ready copy or any Microsoft Word compatible computer file.

All members also have the right to include a free classified ad in the newsletter of up to 10 lines of text.

NOTICE: The Colonial Coin Collectors Club does not review the ads provided for accuracy, nor does it assess any items offered for sale relative to authenticity, correct descriptions, or the like. C4 is not to be considered a party to any transactions occurring between members based on such ads, and will in no way be responsible to either the buyer or seller.

Thanks to an ANS grant I am working on a study of circulating coins and currencies of the French and Indian Wars period (1689-1763). I would be very grateful for information on any American and Canadian metal detector finds dating to this period as well as any coins in collections that have find provenances attached to them. Contact: Oliver D. Hoover, [REDACTED]
Email: oliver.hoover@sympatico.ca

I am interested in acquiring counterstamped Wood's Hibernia halfpennies and farthings, or photos of them. I'm also seeking unusual edge markings on Kentucky pieces. Syd Martin: sfmartin5@comcast.net or [REDACTED]

Wanted: Early American communion tokens (for purchase or trade).
Bob Merchant, [REDACTED]

FOR SALE: CD, Special Edition 5.0, High-resolution digital images of my reference collection of Contemporary Counterfeit British & Irish 1/2d & 1/4d, well over 1,000 different specimens. Organized by Major Type, Date and Families where appropriate, with additional material on Major Errors and Die Breaks...\$55 post paid. Registered buyers, if you'd like, will be added to a distribution list that will receive updates by email with images attached of new specimens of major varieties and Families as they are identified. For more information, see http://www.geocities.com/copperclem/Counterfeits_page3.html
Clem Schettino, [REDACTED] copperclem@comcast.net



French colonials for sale:

- 1716 1/4 ecu AVF \$115
- 1769 1/2 sol nice VF \$40
- 1771-& 1/2 sol AVF \$65 very scarce type
- 1768-& sol VF \$90 very scarce type
- (1793) AA sol balance/scales VF \$150
- 1793-BB sol balance/scales VF-XF \$300

Ed Sarrafian, [REDACTED] (ershyc@aol.com)



C4 Offers Outstanding Vlack Book on French Colonial Coins. The third monograph published by the Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4) has been released, *An Illustrated Catalogue of the French Billon Coinage in the Americas* by the noted numismatist Robert A. Vlack. This is the first comprehensive guide to the billon coinages that circulated in the French colonies of the Americas, which included Canada, Louisiana and the French West Indies. An 18-page introduction discusses the history of the coins and includes a rarity listing of the various counterstamped billon coins authorized for use in Canada during the seventeenth century. This is followed by an extensive and well-illustrated catalogue of the coins (pp. 20-157) reflecting over thirty years of research by Vlack on this topic. The catalog proceeds from the *Mosquetaires* of 30 and 15 *deniers* to the billon *Sous Marqués* and Half-*Sous Marqués* and then to contemporary counterfeits. It next includes a full listing of billon coinage and counterstamped billon coins of the French West Indies, as well as a discussion of the coins known as "black dogs." The work was amended and edited by Philip L. Mossman with typesetting and graphic design by Gary Trudgen.

In the catalogue every denomination is divided into sections, one section for each of the various French mints producing that denomination; some denominations were issued from as many as thirty different mints! Each mint section contains an explanation of all the mintmasters and engravers associated with that mint during the years of issue. The specific coins from the mint are then cataloged by year with annotations on mintage, rarity and variants. There are numerous illustrations with enlarged details of overdates and errors that are especially useful to the user in identification. This is the first time such information has been made available in English.

The folio size hardcover book (x+157 pp.) is available for \$50.00 US plus \$5.00 for shipping (\$6.50 to Canada and \$13.50 to Europe) from Ray Williams, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

For further information on this book and other books published by the Colonial Coin Collectors Club, as well as joining the organization, visit the C4 website at:
www.colonialcoins.org

Wanted to buy: Ford sale catalogues, Nos. 1-4 and 6-11. Please contact Oliver Hoover at oliver.hoover@sympatico.ca.

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Colonials for sale: 1652 Pine tree 6p VF \$4200; Massachusetts cents 1D Au \$1800, 6N no period VF \$650, 10L VF-XF \$650, 121 AVF \$375; New Jersey cents 17k VF \$2100, 50f VF/F \$1800, 64t large flan VF-XF \$650; Connecticut coppers 1785 5-F.5 AVF \$350, 6.4-1 XF \$1400, 1786 2.1-A VF \$1250, 5.8-H.2 VF \$475, 1787 11.1-E VF \$325, 21-DD VF \$900, 33.14-Z.14 VG \$200, 33.16-Z.15 AXF \$1650, 33.25-Z.24 F-VF \$2450, 33.30-EE F \$700, 48-g.5 F \$500, 1788 11-G VF-XF \$450; Vermonts RR8 VF-XF \$1750, RR10 F-VF \$650, RR11 F-VF \$975, RR13 VF \$400, RR14 VF \$650, RR21 VF \$2700, RR24 VG \$105, RR27 XF \$1800, RR31 VF-XF \$3300; Machin's Mills 1747 VF+ \$2800, 5-72A F-VF \$1600, 1774 8-74A VF+ \$800, 4-75A VF-XF \$3200, 12-78B XF \$2800, 18-87C VF-XF large flan \$1000; Fugios 17-S XF \$1500, 9-P XF \$1600, 18-H AVF \$1250; 1766 Pitt 1/2p AXF \$1600; 1785 Nova Constellatio VF-XF \$450; St. Patrick 1/4p bird under king VF-XF \$2800; Washington Large Success Token XF \$950; Betts 67 in silver XF \$1800Richard August

...also lists of foreign coins used in America.

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Upcoming Auctions

November 9 - 12, 2006
Baltimore, Maryland
* Official Convention Auctioneer *
Baltimore Coin & Currency Conv.
Consignment deadline: Closed

May 23 - 26, 2007
Anaheim, California
* Official Convention Auctioneer *
Consignment deadline: April 13, 2007

February 8 - 10, 2007
Beverly Hills, California
Rarities Sale
Consignment deadline: Dec. 27, 2006

June 2007
Memphis Currency
Memphis, Tennessee

March 21 - 24, 2007
Baltimore, Maryland
* Official Convention Auctioneer *
Baltimore Coin & Currency Conv.
Consignment deadline: Feb. 9, 2007

June 27 - 30, 2007
Baltimore, Maryland
* Official Convention Auctioneer *
Baltimore Coin & Currency Conv.



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